

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00  
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07  
OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 DODE-00 /058 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO DEA HQS WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3411

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DEA HQS PASS BENSINGER/AD, MILLER/AD, CASEY/EN, FINK/IG AND  
DOYLE/ENOF FROM RD ADDARIO

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: VISIT OF RANKING THAI OFFICIALS TO NORTHERN THAILAND

1. THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S ALREADY STRONG ANTI-NARCOTICS STANCE  
WAS REINFORCED LAST WEEK BY THE VISIT OF SEVERAL HIGH-RANKING  
POLICE AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS TO NORTHERN THAILAND.

2. THE RETINUE, LED BY JUDGE PRAMUK SAWADDIMONGKOL, SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION COMMITTEE OF THE  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, ALSO INCLUDED LT. GENERAL CHUMPHOL  
LOHACHALA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE THAI NATIONAL POLICE  
DEPARTMENT; MAJOR GENERAL CHAVALIT YODMANEE, CHIEF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
DIVISION AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION CENTER;  
AS WELL AS COMMANDERS FROM REGION V PROVINCIAL POLICE (PP), POLICE  
NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION CENTER NORTH (PNSC NORTH), AND REGION  
III AREA V BORDER PATROL POLICE (BPP).

3. THE GROUP BEGAN ITS FOUR-DAY VISIT ON JUNE 7 AT THE DEA OFFICE  
IN CHIANG MAI WHERE IT RECEIVED A BRIEFING ON EXISTING CONDITIONS,  
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PROBLEMS AND COOPERATION IN THE NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION EFFORT.  
AFTER THE BRIEFING, GENERAL CHUMPHOL PRAISED AND THANKED DEA  
FOR ALL OF THEIR PAST ASSISTANCE AND EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT  
MUTUAL COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL CONCERNED POLICE ELEMENTS WILL  
CONTINUE IN NORTHERN THAILAND. GENERAL CHUMPHOL ALSO INSTRUCTED  
EACH OF THE ATTENDING POLICE COMMANDS TO EXTEND FULL COOPERATION  
AND ASSISTANCE TO DEA.

4. THE ENTOURAGE THEN TRAVELED TO REGION III AREA V BPP HEAD-QUARTERS AND RECEIVED BRIEFINGS FROM RANKING BPP OFFICIALS. GENERAL CHUMPHOL EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT NOT ENOUGH WAS BEING DONE TO COUNTER THE NARCOTIC PROBLEM AND SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED THAT BPP AND PP SHOULD INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEN ASSIGNED TO NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS.

5. ON JUNE 8, GENERAL PAO SARASIN, CHIEF OF THE THAI NATIONAL POLICE NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION CENTER AND MR. DANIEL J. ADDARIO, DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR, JOINED THE ENTOURAGE AND ATTENDED A PRESS CONFERENCE IN CHIANG MAI. RANKING MEMBERS OF THE ENTOURAGE EXPRESSED TO THE NEWS MEDIA THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN REGARDING NARCOTIC ADDICTION AND TRAFFICKING AND STATED THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT TO NORTHERN THAILAND WAS TO IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS AND ENCOURAGE THE AUTHORITIES IN CHARGE OF NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION TO MAKE A GREATER CONCERTED EFFORT IN NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION.

6. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE ENTOURAGE ACCOMPANIED BY RD ADDARIO AND CHIANG MAI DISTRICT OFFICE SAIC WILSON, FLEW TO PIANG LUANG, THAM NGOP, MAE SALONG AND CHIANG RAI. AT PIANG LUANG, THE ENTOURAGE MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SUA WHO HAVE RECENTLY RESETTLED THEIR TROOPS IN BURMA AT THE REQUEST OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT. AT THAM NGOP, THE ENTOURAGE MET WITH GENERAL LI WEN HUAN, 3RD CIF COMMANDER, AND AT MAE SALONG, THE ENTOURAGE MET WITH GENERAL TUAN HSI WEN, 5TH CIF COMMANDER. BOTH GENERAL LI AND GENERAL TUAN ADVISED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE ENTOURAGE THAT THEY HAVE CEASED CULTIVATING POPPY. THE COMMANDERS FURTHER STATED THAT IF ANY OF THEIR SUBORDINATES WERE CAUGHT BY THAI AUTHORITIES TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTICS, THEY SHOULD BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO THAI LAW. GENERAL CHUMPHOL STATED TO BOTH GENERAL LI AND GENERAL TUAN THAT THEY ARE NOT TO GROW OR TRAFFIC IN OPIUM IF THEY WANT TO REMAIN IN THAILAND. HIS MESSAGE WAS LOUD, CLEAR AND TO THE POINT. JUDGE PRAMUK ECHOED THE SAME MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER. AT CHIANG RAI THE ENTOURAGE MET WITH RANKING POLICE OFFICIALS AND GENERAL CHUMPHOL AGAIN EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT NOT ENOUGH WAS BEING DONE TO COUNTER THE NARCOTIC PROBLEM AND DIRECTED THE OFFICIALS TO INCREASE THEIR SUPPRESSION EFFORTS. GENERAL CHUMPHOL STATED THAT A SIMILAR TRIP TO SOUTHERN THAILAND (SONGKHLA) IS PLANNED FOR THE NEAR FUTURE FOR THE SAME ATTENDEES, INCLUDING RD ADDARIO.

7. THE VISIT WAS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT IT MARKED THE FIRST TIME ALL COMMANDERS OF THE VARIOUS POLICE ELEMENTS IN THE NORTH WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER AT ONE TIME BY THEIR SUPERIORS FROM BANGKOK AND INSTRUCTED TO INCREASE THEIR EFFORTS IN NARCOTIC SUPPRESSION. THE MESSAGE JUDGE PRAMUK AND GENERAL CHUMPHOL BROUGHT WITH THEM WAS UNMISTAKEABLE AND IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE DEMONSTRABLE RESULTS, IF ANY, OCCUR IN THE NORTH.

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT BY DEA.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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